Montana Department of Corrections

Our Mission

The Montana Department of Corrections enhances public safety, promotes positive change in offender behavior, reintegrates offenders into the community and supports victims of crime.

About 1,200 inmates walk out of the gates of Montana prisons each year, usually making their way back to the communities they left when sentenced. How well-prepared they are to successfully return to society determines their ability to lead productive, law-abiding lives, create no new victims and avoid rebounding into the corrections system.

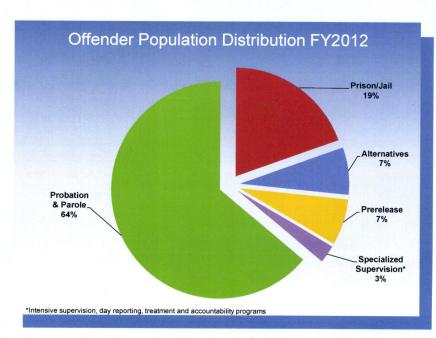
In the past two years, the Montana Department of Corrections launched a concerted effort to improve and expand programs and services designed to give adult offenders greater chances for success when no longer in prison.

Reentry refers to this transition from incarceration and to the programs aimed at helping. Although the concept of reentry has been a part of corrections for decades, the term is relatively new and is the subject of national recognition that more can be done to reduce recidivism rates that drive up correctional costs and consume scarce taxpayer dollars.

Success for offenders means having stable housing and employment, effective treatment, positive personal relationships, family support and appropriate supervision. Success means fewer future victims, less crime and a safer Montana.

The Montana Reentry Initiative has a single goal: Use a more focused effort to increase offenders' success. A task force began work in the summer of 2011 to increase coordination of corrections system efforts with those of other government agencies and community partners. The task force is working with the Department of Labor and Industry, Department of Public Health and Human Services, higher education, faith-based groups, law enforcement, families, employers and landlords to craft a blueprint that reduces recidivism.

The initiative targets those offenders who pose the greatest risk of returning to prison. Release prep-



aration efforts begin the day these offenders enter prison and continue throughout incarceration.

The department believes these efforts will reduce recidivism, save Montana taxpayers money and transform lives from those where criminal action is commonplace and problems go unresolved, to lives that contribute daily

Law & Justice Interim Committee Meeting July 10, 2013

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Glance

Exhibit 12

2011-12 in review

- Saw a 19 percent decline in the number of juvenile offenders supervised by the department during the past two years and a 35 percent decrease since 2006
- Launched the Montana Reentry Initiative, a statewide project to improve coordination of government and community services and programs that provide offenders
 with tools to be successful when returning to their communities
- In conjunction with the Department of Labor and Montana State University Billings, implemented the New Path New Life reentry program in Billings, assisting female offenders in four key areas of transitioning to the community
- Obtained for the Montana State Prison infirmary accreditation by the National Commission on Correctional
 Health Care, which sets standards for correctional health
 care nationwide
- Expanded the crime victim notification system to track offenders on probation and parole and to provide text
 messages to victims
- Successfully implemented a new felony restitution collection and disbursement system, allowing victims the ability to have payments deposited directly into their account rather than wait for a check to be issued
- Expanded the Pine Hills garden production for the school lunch program to include a high-production greenhouse, with excess food donated to the local food bank
- Expanded the inmate trust account system to include transactions in any state-run or contracted secure facility, providing continuity throughout the system for all offenders and preventing delays in receipt of funds when inmates are transferred to another facility
- Completed development of an infirmary in Lewistown that is a collaborative effort between corrections and the Department of Public Health and Human Services to
 house 25 offenders with serious physical and medical conditions, and allow an increase in the capacity of Montana State Prison
- Managed an inmate fire crew that provided more than 3,500 hours of community service and 613 hours of wildland firefighting in fiscal years 2011 and 2012

- Despite the end of a federal grant, maintained specialized probation and parole officers focusing on Native American offenders and those with co-occurring mental health and addiction problems, reducing violations among those populations
- Assisted 135 incarcerated offenders with post-secondary education, with five obtaining associate degrees and 10 getting welding certificates from two different community colleges
- Completed renovation of an antiquated cell block into the Security Services Unit at Montana State Prison, including redesign of the interior and addition of new windows, boilers, lighting and insulated siding
- Completed Pine Hills candidacy to become a member of Performance-based Standards for Youth Correction and Detention Facilities, and focused on facility improvement using best practices and validated research as a guide
- Conducted 10 American Indian cultural awareness training courses for correctional staffs in state and contracted facilities
- Provided an Internet-based registration system allowing victims to register electronically to track offenders under department supervision
- Improved the community corrections division's communication process and expedited the screening process of our offenders by using a new program that sends offender information packets electronically over the Internet to all community-based facilities
- Continued working with Montana State University Billings to provide post-secondary and life skills education at Montana Women's Prison, with 84 offenders completing the life skills curriculum and 10 finishing credit course work
- Completed development of a garden and greenhouse at Montana Women's Prison that will provide food for the prison and save about \$2,000 a year
- In conjunction with the Montana Correctional Association, made the department's reentry initiative the focus of the organization's annual conference.

FY2012 budget

Total General Fund Expenditures excluding Board of Pardons and Parole

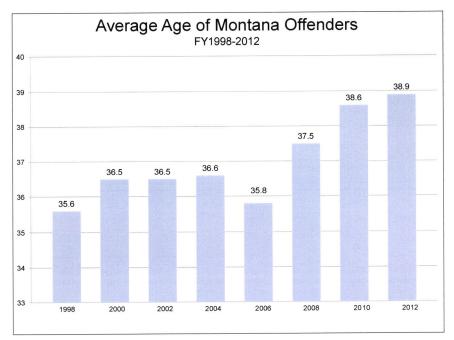
	2012	2010	FY2012 Sp	ending
Administration	\$9,540,055	\$10,568,797	Youth Services 10.6%	Outside Medical 4.8%
Community Corrections	\$58,610,779	\$57,148,024	Montana Correctional Enterprises 0.5%	Administration 5.6%
Prison	\$74,499,545	\$72,948,667		
Correctional Enterprises	\$801,597	\$1,736,565	Secure Custody 44.0%	Communi Correction 34.6%
Youth Services	\$17,961,287	\$18,649,456		
Outside Medical	\$8,050,773	\$5,569,867	More than 94 cents of every dollar spent pays for direct services to offenders.	
Total	\$169,464,036	\$167,410,249		

Average Costs Per Day excluding administrative costs

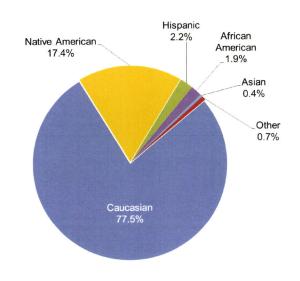
Adult	Montana State Montana W Prison Priso \$92.20 \$98			Contract Prisons \$72.44		MASC \$76.26	START \$93.19	WATCh (M/F) \$78.91/\$107.58
	Prerelease Centers (M/F)	Treat	Nexus/Elkhorn Treatment (M/F)		CD Treatment (male)	t Ass	Sanction sessment Treatment female)	Probation & Parole
	\$59.28/\$48.39	\$122.38/	\$135.95	\$97.84	\$73.77	•	\$79.69	\$4.28
Youth	Pine Hills \$306.88	Riverside \$443.51	Youth Tra Cent \$339	ters	Parole \$137.78	take ii correc staffin	nto consideration i ctional facilities an	erage daily costs must many variables among ad programs, including as, programming, types levels.

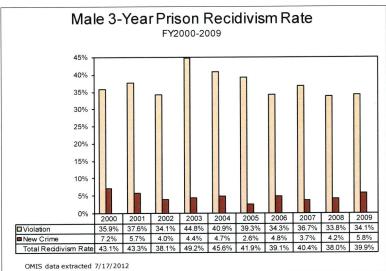
- Made significant enhancements to the department's electronic adult and juvenile offender databases, including event scheduling, risk-and-needs assessments, restitution payment information and case management tools
- Started a dialogue between Montana Women's Prison inmates and tribal members from Montana and Wyoming to promote cultural and traditional programs within the prison and to focus on Native American offenders' reentry into their communities

by the numbers...



Ethnicity of Offenders





Top 10 Conviction Offenses

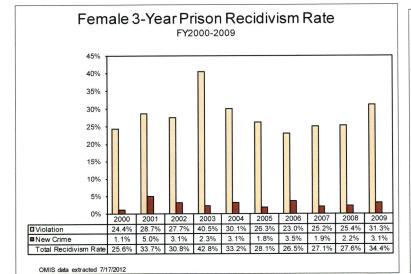
FY2008-2012

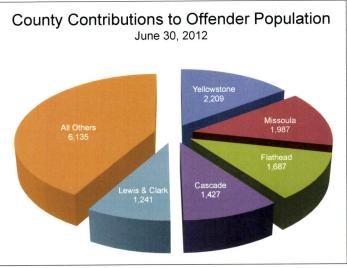
Males

- 1 FELONY DUI
- 2 CRIMINAL ENDANGERMENT
- 3 POSSESSION OF DRUGS
- 4 THEFT
- 5 BURGLARY
- 6 DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS
- 7 ASSAULT WITH A WEAPON
- PARTNER/FAMILY MEMBER
- 8 ASSAULT
- POSSESSION WITH INTENT
- 9 TO DISTRIBUTE
- 10 ISSUING A BAD CHECK
- OMIS Data Extracted 7/3/2012

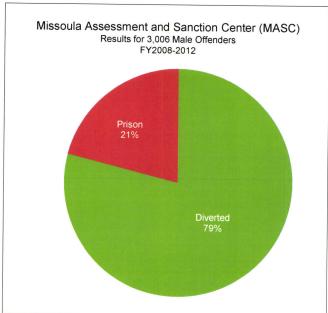
Females

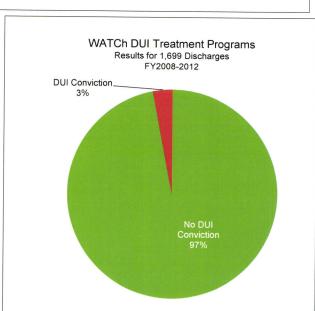
- 1 POSSESSION OF DRUGS
- 2 THEFT
- 3 CRIMINAL ENDANGERMENT
- 4 ISSUING A BAD CHECK
- 5 DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS
- 6 FELONY DUI
- 7 FORGERY
- FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINING
- DRUGS
- 9 THEFT BY EMBEZZLEMENT
- 10 BURGLARY

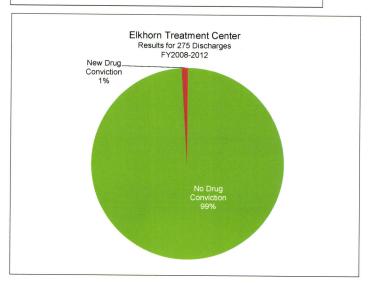


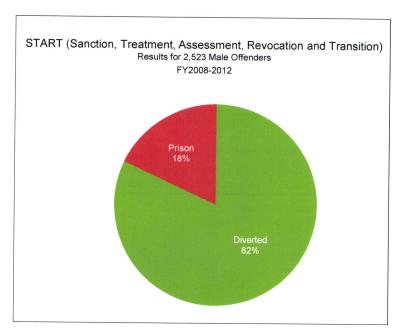


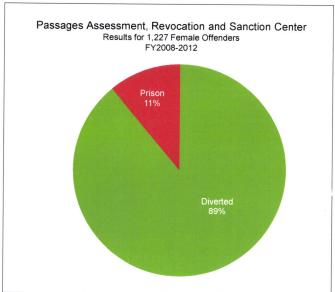
programs

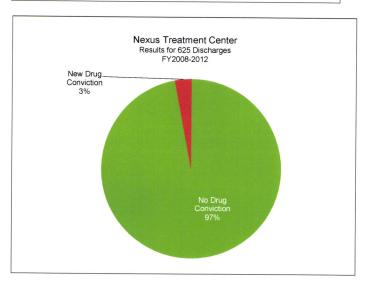




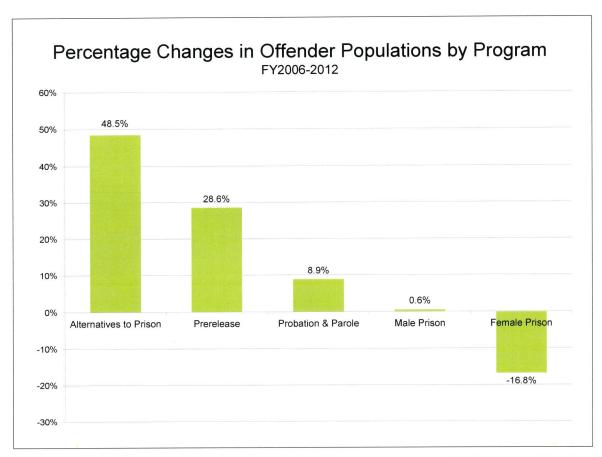






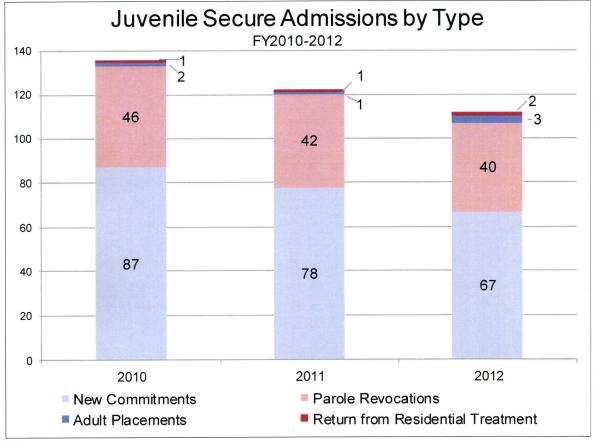


population



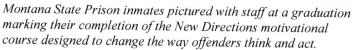
Montana's emphasis on developing correctional options to prison has had an impact during the past seven years. Alternatives, such as sanction and treatment programs, saw a 48 percent growth in population, while the number of offenders in prerelease centers increased more than 28 percent and the community supervision population climbed 9 percent. At the same time, the number of male inmates changed less than 1 percent and the female prison population dropped nearly 17 percent.

Montana's adjudicated juveniles are being placed in secure facilities in smaller numbers. The total number of youths entering Montana's two secure juvenile facilities decreased 17.6 percent in the past three years. The number of new commitments dropped nearly 23 percent, while the number of iuveniles admitted due to parole revocations fell 13 percent.



reentry







Donita Auld, a graduate of the Passages Women's Center culinary arts program, speaks at a ceremony honoring the program with a national award.



To have better chances of finding employment upon release, inmates learn marketable job skills and work ethic through such programs as computer training at the women's prison, above, and furniture manufacturing at the state prison, right.



Billings Gazette and DOC photos

The Department of Corrections believes preparing offenders for successful return to their communities is one of its most important duties, because it has a direct effect on reducing recidivism and increasing public safety. The Montana Reentry Initiative is a focused effort to enhance existing programs and services in ways that improve offenders' chances of leading productive, law-abiding lives.

Montana State Prison inmates learn ranch work during a branding at the ranch operated by Montana Correctional Enterprises.

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A high-production garden grow tunnel under cosntruction at Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility will provide young offenders with horticultural work experience.

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directory

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